

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 SAJ-01 NIC-01 SAM-01 CU-05 EB-11

DRC-01 /111 W

----- 108397

R 060706Z AUG 74

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1773

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE HONG KONG 8797

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, CH

SUBJECT: RED FLAG PUTS STUDY ON PAR WITH STRUGGLE

REF: HONG KONG 8610

SUMMARY. IN ADDITION TO OTHER SIGNS WE HAVE NOTED OF A CURRENT
CONSTRICTION IN THE PRC'S INTERNAL POLITICAL MOVEMENT, RED
FLAG HAS NOW PUT STUDY ON A PAR WITH STRUGGLE AS THE PRIORITY
TASK. END SUMMARY.

1. AMID OTHER SIGNS THAT THE BRAKES ARE ON IN CHINA'S INTERNAL
POLITICAL MOVEMENT (REFTEL)--THE CHOKING OFF OF POSTER ATTACKS
AND THE NEW EMPHASIS ON PRODUCTION--RED FLAG HAS OFFERED A
REDEFINITION OF THE MOVEMENT, PUTTING IDEOLOGICAL STUDY ON A PAR
WITH POLITICAL STRUGGLE. AN ARTICLE IN THE AUGUST ISSUE OF THE
PARTY'S THEORETICAL JOURNAL REAFFIRMS THAT THE CAMPAIGN "IS A
POLITICAL AND IDEOLOGICAL STRUGGLE IN THE REALM OF
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SUPERSTURCTURE," BUT ADDS THAT "IT IS ALSO A MASS MOVEMENT TO STUDY

MARXISM." IN THE HISTORY OF THE PARTY, WHENEVER STRUGGLE OVER THE LINE ARISES, IT HAS BEEN "NECESSARY TO SIMULTANEOUSLY LAUNCH AN EXTENSIVE MARXIST EDUCATIONAL MOVEMENT....THIS IS ALSO TRUE FOR THE CRITICISM OF LIN PIAO AND CONFUCIUS."

2. ALLUDING TO PROBLEMS THAT HAVE CROPPED UP IN THE MOVEMENT, THE ARTICLE URGES STUDY IN ORDER TO "AVOID THE SUPERFICIAL CONDITIONS, GRASP THE ESSENTIAL POINTS AND HIT THE WEAK POINTS." THE ARTICLE MAKES A PASSING CLAIM THAT "ALL DECADENT IDEOLOGIES AND OTHER UNSUITABLE PARTS OF THE SUPERSTRUCTURE ARE COLLAPSING DAILY," BUT ZEROS IN ON THE LONG TERM, COMPLICATED NATURE OF THE TASK; " IT TAKES TIME TO COMPLETELY SWEEP OUT THIS TRASH."

3. IN WHAT COULD BE AN ABERRATION BUT MIGHT ALSO WELL REFELCT THE DOMINANT THINKING AT THE CENTER NOW, A HEILUNGKIANG PARTY MEETING HAS CALLED FOR STUDY AND SUGGESTED THAT STUBBORN POLITICAL OFFENDERS BE DEALT WITH BY THE AUTHORITIES, NOT THE MASSES. A REPORT OF THE MEETING, BROADCAST AUGUST 2 DECLARES THAT "UNDER THE DICTATORSHIP OF THE PROLETARIAT, WE MUST RELY ON THE THE STATE TO SUPPRESS THE POLITICAL RESISTANCE BY THE BOURGEOISIE... WE MUST ALSO SMASHTHEIR ATTACKS IN THE IDEOLOGICAL FIELD."

4. COMMENT. IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER THE MOVEMENT IS WINDING DOWN, OR JUSTIN A LULL WHILE THE TOP LEADERSHIP DEBATES THE NEXT STEP. BUT AS STEPS TO REDEFINE AND RESTRICT THE MOVEMENT GROW, SO DOES THE POSSIBILITY THAT IT WOULD TAKE A WRENCHING ACTION TO TURN UP THE TEMPO AGAIN.
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